



For Immediate Release: Thursday, May 19, 2005

Contact: Rose Lynch (608) 266-6753

Web Audio: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/2005/multimedia/ui_april05_state.mp3

APRIL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

Adjusted Data

Madison – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 4.5 percent and is at the lowest rate since September 2001 when the rate was at 4.4 percent. The last 12 months have shown a return to normal levels that were established prior to September 11, 2001. Wisconsin has shown 11 straight months of unemployment rates below 5.0 percent. This is a statistic that we have not seen since prior to September 2001. The March 2005 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated to be 4.6 percent, while April of 2004 was estimated to be 5.0 percent. The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was estimated at 5.2 percent, which was unchanged compared to March. The April 2004 national rate was estimated at 5.5 percent.

Unadjusted Data

Wisconsin's non-adjusted preliminary April 2005 rate was estimated at 4.7 percent compared to 5.5 percent in March and 5.2 percent in April of 2004. The national non-adjusted rate was reported at 4.9 percent in April of 2005, 5.4 percent in March of 2005, and 5.4 percent in March of 2004.

"Wisconsin's labor market showed continued improvement last month with job gains of nearly 27,000 over last April, including more than 2,000 new jobs in manufacturing," Secretary Gassman said. "Though encouraged by yet another positive jobs report, we understand that pockets of the state continue to struggle."

Wisconsin's nonfarm wage and salary jobs were estimated to be 2,810,300 in April 2005, which is up 34,200 jobs. The industries with the largest monthly employment gains were construction and leisure and hospitality, which combined for more than 21,700 more jobs over the month. The professional and business services sector gained 7,000 jobs. Retail trade gained 3,500 jobs monthly.

April's job total is 26,600 jobs higher than it was in April 2004. The most significant annual job gains were in educational and health services, construction, and wholesale trade. Manufacturing gained 2,100 jobs compared to April 2004. Government employment shows 100 fewer jobs compared to last April.

April employment and unemployment figures for individual counties will be available May 25, 2005. This release also is available at <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/>.

-end-

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
In Thousands

ITEM	PRELIM. APR 05	FINAL MAR 05	YEAR AGO APR 04	NET CHANGE FROM	
				MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES				
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3032.6	3027.3	3046.0	5.3	-13.4
UNEMPLOYMENT	143.6	165.0	158.1	-21.4	-14.5
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.7	5.5	5.2	-0.8	-0.5
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2888.9	2862.2	2888.0	26.7	0.9
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2810.3	2776.1	2783.7	34.2	26.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	2387.7	2354.1	2361	33.6	26.7
GOODS PRODUCING	629.7	619.4	623.2	10.3	6.5
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3.4	3.1	3.7	0.3	-0.3
CONSTRUCTION	126.9	115.4	122.2	11.5	4.7
MANUFACTURING	499.4	500.9	497.3	-1.5	2.1
Durable Goods	311.6	312.7	308.5	-1.1	3.1
Nondurable Goods	187.8	188.2	188.8	-0.4	-1.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	2180.6	2156.7	2160.5	23.9	20.1
TRADE	427.3	422.0	423.5	5.3	3.8
Wholesale Trade	116.1	114.3	112.9	1.8	3.2
Retail Trade	311.2	307.7	310.6	3.5	0.6
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	108.3	106	105.9	2.3	2.4
Utilities	11.5	11.4	11.5	0.1	0.0
Information	50.6	50.9	49.7	-0.3	0.9
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	157.7	157.4	157.6	0.3	0.1
Finance and Insurance	129.4	130.3	130.5	-0.9	-1.1
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28.3	27.1	27.1	1.2	1.2
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	249.6	242.6	249.3	7.0	0.3
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	88.4	87.2	90.4	1.2	-2.0
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	38.8	38.4	39.6	0.4	-0.8
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	122.4	117	119.3	5.4	3.1
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	382.9	384	374.8	-1.1	8.1
Educational Services	52.5	53.8	48.5	-1.3	4.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	330.4	330.2	326.3	0.2	4.1
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	246.8	236.6	242.6	10.2	4.2
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	32.1	28.4	32.3	3.7	-0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	214.7	208.2	210.3	6.5	4.4
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	134.8	135.2	134.4	-0.4	0.4
GOVERNMENT	422.6	422	422.7	0.6	-0.1
Federal Government	29.2	29.1	29.5	0.1	-0.3
State Government	104.8	104.1	103.5	0.7	1.3
Local Government	288.6	288.8	289.7	-0.2	-1.1
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	267.0	0.0	0.0	267.0	267.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3059.3	3051.6	3068.7	7.7	-9.4
UNEMPLOYMENT	139.1	140.4	153.2	-1.3	-14.1
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.5	4.6	5.0	-0.1	-0.5
EMPLOYMENT	2920.2	2911.1	2915.5	9.1	4.7

*Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section, Bureau of Workforce Information